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The Shanghai Evening Post & Mercury, Friday, June 25, 1937

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Assassin Case Gets Rehearing

Principle Suspect, Out On Bail, Absent From Court

The case c' the assassination of Mr. Tang Chai-bang, former manager of the Great World Amusement Resort, in 1933, which has been dragging on for the past four years, was brought up for investigation in the 3rd Kjangsu High Court this morning. The principal in the case, Wang Hsing-kao, suspected of having taken a hand in the murder, who was granted ball of \$20,000 during his trial last year, failed to appear in court today and today's session was featured by the questioning of a witness, Mr. Sun King-liang, manager of the Asia Hotel on Avenue Edward VII

The protracted case had its beginning in the winter of 1934 when Wang Hsing-kno was arrested in connection with the murder. He was duly tried in the Second Special District Court and was given a life term. Later in the same year Mr. Koc Chu-himo owner of the Tien Shuan Theatre, was convicted by the same court and given 15 years for alleged instigation of the crime. Both filed appeal in the 3rd Klangsu High Court and on June 6 of last year they were found not guilty by the high court and released on ball of \$20,000 for Wang and \$27,000 for Koo.

With the dismissal of the case by the high court the Prench Municipal Police filed an appeal with the Supreme Court in Nanking, and after months of protracted investigation the Supreme Court ordered the local high court to re-open the case against Wang Haing-kao. In the meantime, the case against Koo is being investigated by the Nanking Supreme Court. Hearings in the case were postponed size die as Wang Haing-kaor is peported not to be in Shanghai.

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No. D

March 5, 1937,

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Afternoon Translation.

Ta Kung Pao and other local newspapers :-

THE CASE OF KCO TSOH SHIEN

In Autumn, 1935, Koo Tsoh Shien (), proprietor of the Tien Zey Wu Ten Theatre (), was arrested by the French Police on a charge of haying instigated the murder of Teng Chia Beng (), snd was sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment by the 2nd Special District Court. He appealed and in the summer of 1936, the Third Branch of the Kiangsu High Court found Koo not guilty.

The French Police appealed to the Supreme Court. During the period of appeal, Koo Tsoh Shien served a sentence in the 2nd Special District Gool for opium smoking. His term of imprisonment expired on December 12, 1936.

On December 17, 1936, the Third Branch of the Kiangsu High Court released Koo Tsoh Shien on shop security of \$10,000 and cash security of \$7,000. Opposing the release of Koo on bail, the French Police requested the Third Branch of the Kiangsu High Court to submit a protest to the Supreme Court on its behalf.

It is now learned that the Supreme Court has dismissed the protest submitted by the French Police for the release of Koo Tsoh Shien on bail.

The appeal filed by the French Police against the dismissal of the charge against Koo Tso Shien of having instigated a murder will be heard by the Supreme Court.

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December 26, 1936.

Morning Translation.

National Herald dated December 25:-

THE RELEASE OF KOO TSO SHIEN

Dissatisfied with the order of the 3rd Branch of the Kiangsu High Court in permitting the release of Koo Tso Shien (), the former proprietor of the Tien Zay Wu Tan Theatre (), on cash security of \$7,000 and a written shop security of \$30,000 the French Police the other day pettioned the French Municipal Council to file an appeal with the Supreme Court against the judgement of the 3rd Branch of the Kiangsu High Court.

Afternoon Translation.

December 18, 1936.

China Times and other local newspapers:

MEETING OF CHINESE RATEPAYERS OF FRENCH CONCESSION

the French Concession held a meeting in the Chung Wei Bank Building, Avenue Edward VII, French Concession, at 2 p.m. yesterday. Amongst those present were Messrs. Tu Yueh Sen (大月春), Loh Pah Hung (西海) and Zien Sin Ts (和河之). 100 representatives of Chinese ratepayers in

The following resolutions were discussed and

1) That owing to the general depression in the French Concession, the expenditure of the French Municipal Council for the year 1937 be out down.

2) That with regard to the action of General Chang Hsuch Liang in holding up Generalissimo Ohiang Kai Shek and leading his troops against the Government, a telegram of reproach be despatched to General Chang Hsueh Liang

of reproach be despatched to General Chang Hsuch Liang urging him to come to his senses.

An election of Chinese members and committeemen to the French Municipal Council then took place, as a result of which Messrs. Loh Pah Hung, Zien Sin Ts, Chang Siao Ling (), Chang Chi Si () and Zi Yuin Tsin () were elected Chinese members on the Council Whilst Messrs. Chang Fah Yao (), King Ting Sen (), King Lih Jen (), Tong Kuh Chong (), Zang Mou Chiang (), Chuin Zing Yen () and Chu Shing Niang () were appointed as committeemen.

Lih Pao and other local newspapers:

KOO TSO SHIEN RELEASED

Koo Tso Shien (1994), the former proprietor of the Tien Zay Wu Tan Theatre (F 1994), who was arrested by the French Police on suspicion of having instigated the murder of Mr. Tong Chia Pang (1994), ex-manager of the Great World Amusement Resort, was released at 3.45 p.m. yesterday by order of the 3rd Branch of the Kiangsu High Court after his family had furnished such security of 47 000 Court after his family had furnished aash security of \$7,000 and shop security of \$10,000.

Koo Tso Shien has been under detention for 15 months and 8 days.

Society Evening News () TOM dated Dec. 17:

PAPER HUNTING

The Shanghai Paper Hunt Club conducts paper hunts every winter. Last Saturday a hunt was conducted in Zau Wu Ching and heavy damage was caused to the crops. As another race will take place this Saturday, and as the authorities are not takir any action to prevent it, the farmers have planted tamboo sticks fastened with either ropes or wire along the routes to be taken by the paper hunts.

December 10, 1936.

Afternoon Translation. 7000

Sin Wan Pao and other local newspapers:

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KOO TSO SHIEN TO BE RELEASED ON SECURITY

The appeal for release from detention filed by Koo Tso Shien (万万) was heard by Presiding Judge Wu Ting Chi (吴证) and Judges Liao Yen (及场) and Wong Yueh (王成) in the Third Branch of the Kiangsu High Court at 2.45 p.m. yesterday.

Addressing Koo Tso Shien, the Court said: "The case against you for instigating murder has not yet been You must furnish suitable security for your settled. release. "

Koo Tso Shien made the following reply: "Ever since my arrest, all the concerns managed by me have gone into bankruptcy. I am not in a position to offer cash security but I can furnish reliable shop security. have been doing business for some 30 years in Shanghai and have never left Shanghai, there need be no fear of my escaping."

The Court then ordered Koo Tso Shien to furnish \$10,000 cash security and \$10,000 shop security for his release. At the repeated requests of Koo Tso Shien and his lawyer, the Court finally reduced the amounts to $\psi 7,000$ cash and a written shop security of \$10,000 guaranteeing his appearance in Court whenever summoned.

It is understood that the family of Koo Tso Shien is arranging for this security and he will probably be released to-day.

The Sin-Zing-Zuh (新認識 'New Knowledge'), Vol.6, published the following article contributed by one Hsiao Dien (富田):

REACTION TO HUMILIATION

I recount hereunder what really happened at Tazang as certain facts have been misrepresented in newspaper reports. Since the January 28 Incident, XX ronins have frequently visited the vicinity of Tazang in large numbers on Sundays, arriving at 6 o'clock in the morning and not They come either to fish or to returning until evening. shoot birds. They often trample down the fences. they had already incurred the hostility of the farmers.

At about 4 p.m. October 25, six subjects of the so-called "civilized friendly nation" were preparing to loave after having completed their outing. As they passed Yue Ching Jao (存在场), they, for the third time, tore down a caricature posted on a wall near the place. They did it in Their action let loose a manner challenging to the people. the anger which had been smouldering in the breasts of the Quickly a number of inhabitants assembled and clenching their fists they shouted angrily:
"Rape your mother (操係格权格局).

"Kill the tortoises!"

"Kill the XX devils!"

"Kill the XX pigs!"

"Overthrow the XX tortoises!"

The Peace Preservation Corps and the Bureau of Publi: Safety were informed and officials were later detailed to escort the six XX subjects out of the district.

March 1, 1936.

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Morning Translation.

Shun Pao and other local newspapers (29/2) :-

ALLEGED BRIBERY BY KOO TSO SHIEN.

During the hearing of the appeal filed by Koo Tso Shien against his sentence of 15 years imprisonment on a charge of instigating the murder of Tang Kia Bang, Tsang Ding Kwei (), one of the culprits concerned in the murder, accused Koo Tso Shien with having bribed certain warders to instigate him to retract his statement. Consequently the Kiangsu Third Branch High Court adjourned the hearing of the appeal and instructed the Precuratorate of the Shanghai Second Special District Court to conduct an inquiry into the new charge against Koo Tso Shien.

new charge against Koo Tso Shien.

On February 26, the Procuratorate of the Shanghai Second Special District Court, having concluded its enquiry, instituted formal proceedings in the Criminal Division of the same Court against Koo Tso Shien, his brother Koo Soong Now (27 %) and several warders, three of whom have already absconded.

In connection with another accusation brought by Lee Woo Zang(\$ 1.00) and other prisoners against Koo Tso Shien for smoking opium in the St. Marie Hospital and against Chia Foh Yoong(\$ 1.00), head gaoler of the Shanghai Second Special District Gaol, and Woo Loo(\$ 100), head warder of the Detention House, for shielding the offence and neglect of duty, Procurator Wong Ning(1.00) of Shanghai Second Special District Court held an investigation at 11 a.m. yesterday.

Chia Foh Yoong, age 42, native of Soh Shien

Questioned by the Procurator as to whether he had made a duplicate key to a small room of the prison ward by means of soap and whether he had allowed Koo Tso Shien to smoke opium, Chia strongly denied the charge and stated that in order to prevent a further attempt at escape by one of the prisoners named Wong Ah Ny1(I)—) he locked the door of the small room, the key to which was taken away by a nurse. He added that he never saw Koo Tso Shien smoking opium.

Koh Shuan Yue (), one of the prisoners who made the complaint, testified that Koo Tso Shien had smoked opium and that Chia Foh Yoong was fully aware of this. He stated that prisoners Liu King Ching () () and Lee Woo Zang () () could corroborate his evidence.

Zang(10 (7)) could corroborate his evidence.

Woo Loo(10), age 41, native of Yangchow,
head warder of the Detention House, stated he did not see
Koo Tso Shien smoking opium and that he was not aware of the
fact until cigarettes and opium were found by the Chief of
the Second Department of the Shanghai Second Special District
Gaol.

Another prisoner named Zung Kuo Faung () alias Bah Doo Jan (), age 25, native of Shaoshing, denied any knowledge of opium amoking by Koo Tso Shien or of the fact that Chia Foh Young and others were shielding him.

Prisoner Liu Ming Ching, age 41, native of Szechuen, stated that the small room in the prison ward was used for the storage of prisoners' property, and that he could not see Koo Tso Shien smoking opium in the room. He added that one day when the door of the small room was opened

March 1, 1936.

Morning Translation.

by a doctor he smolt opium inside the room. He did not see

Chia Foh Yoong making a duplicate key.

Prisoner Lee Woo Zang, age 26, native of Pootung, testified that he saw Koo Tso Shien smoking opium with the knowledge of Chia Foh Yoong and that prisoner No. 963 named Kyung Zai() prepared the opium for Koo Tso Shien. He added that the information regarding the making of a duplicate key by Chia Foh Yoong was given him by prisoner Zung Kuo Faung.

Prisoner Wong Ah Nyi(F (), age 42, native of Pootung, stated that he had dugged a hole with the intention of stealing Koo Tso Shien's opium; it was not an attempt to escape. One night he saw warder Woo Loo purchase worth of opium on behalf of Koo Tso Shien and smuggled the

drug to Koo through a hole in a window.

Warder Woo Loo denied the charge and questioned

the witness whether any other person had seen this.

The witness replied that only three persons, namely Woo Loo, Koo Tso Shien and himself, were present. He further stated that one day Koo Tso Shien bought two hats for \$5 and gave one each to Chia Foh Yoong and Woo Loo. The former refused the gift because he usually wore a uniform.

The Procurator then ordered the five prisoners to be taken back to prison. Chia Foh will be looked after by the Warden of the Shanghai Second Special District Gaol, while Woo Loo is to be held in the detention house.

Shun Pao and other local newspapers:

THE SHOOTING OF A CHINESE BOATMAN

In connection with the shooting of a boatman named Liu Ah Ho 1/3/40 by three foreign officers of the Customs Cruiser "Yung Sin", the Chinese Marine Engineers Association has sent petitions to the Ministry of Finance and the Office of the Kuomintang Delegate for Seamen's Affairs, requesting them to deal fairly with the case and to uphold justice.

February 28, 1936.

Afternoon Translation.

China Times and other local newspapers:

THE KOO TSO SHIEN CASE

Koo Tso Shien (My 1), formerly, the proprietor of the Tien Zay Wu Tan Theatre (F 7 4 2), was sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment by the 2nd Shanghai Special District Court on a charge of having instigated the murder of Tang Kia Bang (), manager of the Great World Amusement Resort. Koo filed an appeal with the 3rd Brench of the Kiangsu High Court.

As Koo Tso Shien was suspected of having bribed warders Ms Shi Ziang (B. 1) and Ma Shi Chuan (B. 1), the Procurator of the 2nd Special District Court, acting on instructions from the 3rd Branch of the Kiangsu High Court, has examined all the persons concerned and he has detained senior warder Kis Foh Yung (70 %) and warder Wong Pah Kong (2 6 W), while warder Ma Shing Yang () and senior warder Wu Loo () have been warned not to abandon their positions during the period of the investigations. Koo Sung Man (1), elder brother of Koo Tso Shien, who is suspected of having connected with the case, has been ordered to furnish shop security of \$1,000. furnish shop security of \$1,000.

Two days ago, the two warders Ma Shi Ziang and Ma Shi Chuan, who have absconded, sent a joint letter to the Procuratorate of the 2nd Special District Court, stating that they had no connection whatever with the case.

The Procure torate of the 2nd Special District Court publishes the following notice in the "Sin Wan Pao" and other local newspapers addressed to Ma Shi Ziang and Ma Shi Chuan:-

"Your letter has been received and noted. You should appear before the Court for interrogation in order to enable the Court to deal with the matter".

China Times and other local newspapers:

AVIATION COLTRIBUTIONS TO BE COLLECTED FROM HOT WATER SHOPS AS FROM MARCH 1

The Captain's Office of the Membership Canvassing Groups of the China National Aviation Corporation summoned a number of hot water shop owners and held a meeting with them on February 8 to discuss the collection of aviation contributions from their shops.

It was resolved that a sum of \$100,000 as contribution to the eviation fund for the selvation of the nation be collected from hot water shops. It was also resolved that a monthly contribution of one dollar be collected from every hot water shop, but in the case of a hot water shop which is also operated as a tea shop, a collection will be made of one copper on every pot of tea solution to the monthly payment of one dollar.

The collection of aviation contributions from

hot water shops will commence on March 1.

RICKSHAW OWNER ORDERED TO GIVE BOND

Mr. Koo Sung-mow, a wealthy rick-shaw owner in the Settlement, was one of the witnesses called to testif, in the Second Special District Court yesterday during the investigations of allegations that Mr. Koo's younger brother, Koo Tso-hsi, who was sentenced to fifteen years' imprisonment recently on charge of instigating the murder of Tang Chia-pang, had bribed the warders of the Court's detention house while he was detained there, awaiting appeal. The investigations were held in camera, but, at the conclusion, Mr. Koo Sungmow was ordered to furnish \$1,000 cash or shop security. It will be recalled that, when the alleged bribery was discovered, several warders of the detention house left their positions and the court authorities are looking for them.

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February 26, 1936.

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Forming translation.

THE MOO TSC CHIEN CASE.

At 9.30 yesterday Procurator Wong Ning (3 11) of the Shanghai Second Special District Court interrogated Moo Soong Now (77 42 % the third elder brother of Hoo Tso Shien), Hoo Tsai Sz 77 % Noo Lee Sz 77 % (of Koo Tso Shien's family), Zung Chien San (77 % 5 Koo Tso Chien's brother-in-law), Woo Lu (5 %), Chief of the Detention House, and Na Sing Zaung (7 %), a warder. The proceedings were held in camera.

According to information secured by a reporter this paper, the enquiry arose out of the bribery of warders to bring about a retraction of statements by certain prisoners and had special reference to a deposit of \$3,000 in the Da Yah Bank in the name of Tsang Sung (). All the members of Koo's family denied any connection with this affair. The Procurator later ordered the two warders not to leave their posts during the enquiry and held Koo Soong Now under bail of \$1,000.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

NEHAL MURICIPAL PO

S. 1, SpecialS.Band

REPORT

Date, November 4, 1935.

Subject (in full) Kiang Hwai Fellow Countrymen's Association - meeting Mai'e by D.I. Sin Tse-liang Forwarded by Seventy-eight members of the Kiang Hwai (12 1/8 Fellow Countrymen's Association held a meeting in their office in the Yah Chi Li (Phie E) Ta Yang Jao (人河村), Chiao Tung Road, Chapei, on November 3 and decided to engage lawyers to study the case of Koo Tsoh-shien () + +), a member of x. Ser les the the Association and owner of several amusement resorts in Shanghai, who was recently sentenced at the 2nd Special District Court to 15 years' imprisonment on a charge of instigating the murder of the manager of the Great World Amusement Resort with a view to filing a final appeal against the sentence on behalf of Koo Tsoh-shien. The above information was obtained D. D.C. (Special Branch).

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The sections

DATE 26-10-35

Report sent with 46 Special Branch,	pamphlets, handbills or newspapers to				
Where found Non-in Accounter	Time found	0.20g.m.	Date	36-10-35	
Character of place where found, (industrial, residential, respectable or doubtful neighbourhood).	Busumose Dintro.				
Near School, Factory, Military Camp, Mill etc.	Mear Wing on So. Stores, Smilling Acts.				
How distributed? (If known).	Thron from the diagon work				
Nature of Document. (Communist or Anti-Government etc).		Tana San San San San San San San San San			
Arrests or not, if so how many?	1	-1 (//8/330)			
Class of man arrested? (Student, coolie, mill worker etc.)	- wy	- V-3, 2			
Charged under what Section of C.C. Code?	- 3.	_ 37.			

Cotour 30,1935. Date____

for C. I. etc. ift. 339 Louza _Station.

Translation of a handbill, a number of which were thrown from the Wing On Roof Garden on the evening of Oct. 26.

We feel very sorry that Koo Tao Shien's evil
influence is still as strong as ever! This desperado
has assassinated many persons, threatened the Court,
bought over witnesses and slighted the law and orders
of the Government. The various circles have now been
requested to uphold justice in connection with the case.

Koo Tso Shien, proprietor of the Tein Zuen
Wu Dai Theatre, who is a Kompo "Bah Han" (big loafer),
on June 18, 1933, instigated Wong Shing Kao (玉兴高),
Tseu Nyi (周 = carpenter), Zao Kwang Foh (起意能)
and Tsang Ting Kwei (冷 注注) to assessinate Tang
Chia Bang (京嘉明), the late manager of the Great
World Amusement Resorts

After the murder, Zeu and Tsang refused to return the pistels given to them by Koo Tso Shien because the latter failed to pay them as promised. They were subsequently arrested by the French Police on information released by Koo. The pistels in their possession on being examined were found to have been used in assassinating Tang Chia Bang; and in consequence these men were sentenced to terms of imprisonment.

4 300

Kee requested lawyer Tsu Dien Ching (* Figure)
to visit them in gael, promising them that he (Kee)
would make endeavours to rescue them on condition
that they would not disclose the fact that he had
instigated the murder.

After three hearings, Eau and Tsang were finally sentenced to terms of imprisonment. Seeing they had no hope of being released and Koo had failed to pay them the \$10,000 as promised, Zau and Tsang realized that they had been deceived. Subsequently, they filed a complaint against Wong Shing Kao and Koo Tso Shien.

Koo, after having been arrested, claimed to be suffering from mental disorders and was sent to the St. Marie Hospital.

In the hospital he was permitted to receive friends and relations freely, therefore, he was not restricted and could discuss with others statements to be made before Court, ways of destroying evidence and means of buying over witnesses, with a view to evading responsibility of the crimes

Koo Tso Shien has been smoking opium for more than ten years and has acquired the habit. This is known to all. However, a nee he was arrested, we have not heard that the hospital has made any report on his opium habit. Although Koo said that he was sick when attending the Court for trial, yet he did not appear to be in a depressed state or to desire to satisfy his craving for opium. Persons attending the hearing were much surprised at this. They did not know that at a fixed time every day, members of Koo's family brought opium for Koo to make.

On September 27, when the case was being heard, an uproar took place in the street to which prisoners in the detention house responded. The Chief of the Criminal Division became afraid and Lawyers and witnesses laid their faces down on the ran away. tables and the people in Court were petrified with fear. Knowing Koo's followers to be legion, the French Police had detailed some 160 detectives beforehand to sit in the Court, in case of any emergency. Why did the French Police make such extensive precautions if Koo Tso Shien is a good man? The detectives then drew their pistols. Upon hearing of the trouble, the French Police immediately delegated a party of armed policemen to surround the Court and precautionary measures were adopted. The situation by this time had reached a climax unprecedented in the history of the Court. Disorder prevailed but fortunately there were no casualties.

The Court has received innumerable anonymous threatening letters since it handled the case. The Chief of the Criminal Division, Wong, who is hearing the case is so far known as pure and upright. The residents were very glad and thought that they would be well rid of a wicked devil who committs murder. Hevertheless, a rumour prevails among the community that the Chief of the Criminal Division, under a certain pretext, did not attend the Court and asked for leave two days before the date of judgment, because he had already been threatened by Koo Tso Shien. We also became affaid when we heard this.

Since the opening of the trial, the accused Koo has selected some eight persons to be his witnesses for the purpose of making statements beneficial to him. All these statements are contradictory and false. The witnesses are all natives of Kompo and are Koo's fellow countrymen; they are former gaol birds, having committed murder, robbery, kidnapping and other serious offences. It is clear that they are Koo's

satalites and they only acted in accordance with Koo's wishes. Although Koo is confined in hospital, he can communicate with prisoners in gaol. From this, we can see how great Koo's influence is.

Koo Tao Shien was formerly a loafer. In the 9th, 10th and 11th year of the Chinese Republic, he was repeatedly convicted and sentenced to terms of imprisonment for offences of pocket-picking, receiving stolen property and causing bodily harm to others. Later he assembled a large number of followers and thus became influential. Later he engaged himself in social enterprises in order to place himself in the same rank as other prominent persons as a camouflage for his unlawful activities. instruct his followers to rob mercantile steamers in the vicinity of Kompo and by means of threats, forced the Dah Sun(大生) Steamship Company to come under his control. In addition, he threatened by violence the old shareholders of the Tien Zuen Wu Dai Theatre to startedor their shares He often instigated his followers to murder persons whom he considered to be his enemies or with whom he came into conflict on the questions of power or money. About five or six persons, such as Zang Tshung Heng(南着核), an actor. Zung Yung Sung(院本生), former manager of the Dah Wu Dai Theatre, and Daung Kia Bang, have so far fallen Other cases of intimidation, fraud, robbery victime. and kidnapping of which he is guilty are innumerable.

the public.

Ma Goh Zung (5 1) was originally a remmant of the militarists, and had revolted against the Government for a number of years. As a result of a drastic suppressive campaign conducted by Gen. Chiang Kai Shek. he suffered defeat and came to Shanghai for shelter. However, there was still a certain mumber of Ma's men who, ever anxious to revive their activities, sided with Koo Tso Shien. There are many of these unlawful elements tobe found among Koo's sworn confederates. At Koo's instigation these evil-doers committed robbery, abduction and armed kidnapping, and the crimes were well organized. After the commission of a crime, a fixed amount of money was given to the family of the evil-doer, and travelling expenses were issued to him to enable him to escape. The booty thus obtained was divided in certain proportions.

Koo also entered into alliance with the Chapei Merchant Volunteer Corps and the volunteer units in various Hsiens in Kompo. In the case of crimes committed by his followers, while the authorities were hot on their trails, those who committed the offence in Kompo came to hide among the Merchant Volunteer Corps in Shanghai, whereas those who did the evil in Shanghai fled to Kompo and remained low among the volunteer units there. As regards the firearms used in the commission of these crimes, members of the Chapei Volunteer Corps in uniform were held responsible for their transportation, and consequently it was difficult for the police authorities, well-organized as they are, to detect this traffic. This was how the loafers of Kompo all came under his influence. then can the peace and order of the district be maintained? After all, there will be no peace in Shanghai or im Kompo unless Koo is removed. The public is earnestly requested to uphold justice and it is hoped that the Judicial Authorities will detail an honest and high official to conduct careful enquiries into this case.